

**FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY
NATIONAL LABOR
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

May 16, 2003

International Unions:

International Association
of Machinists and
Aerospace Workers

PACE International Union
(Paper, Allied-Industrial,
Chemical and Energy
Workers)

United Brotherhood
of Carpenters and
Joiners of America

United Mine Workers
of America

Regional Affiliates:

Association of Western
Pulp and Paper Workers

Southern Council of
Industrial Workers

Western Council of
Industrial Workers

Woodworkers
District Lodge 1, IAM

Woodworkers
District Lodge 2, IAM

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the Forest Products Industry National Labor Management Committee, I am asking you to support H.R. 1904, the Healthy Forests Reforestation Act, when it comes before the House.

The Committee is a coalition of labor unions representing 1.5 million members nationwide, including 250,000 workers in the forest products industry. Our membership includes lumber, sawmill, pulp and paper workers, woodworkers, machinists and carpenters. With so many of our members dependant on the forest products industry, we understand the importance of balancing the jobs of our members with protecting the environment.

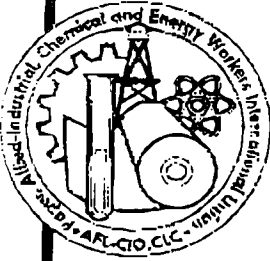
Therefore we are supporting the reforms in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act. The legislation contains provisions that will help protect the our national forests, and adjacent private lands, from the forest fires that have ravaged the West or the bug and disease infestations that have plagued forests in the rest of the country. By bringing balance to the judicial review process, the bill will protect forest jobs in arcas of the country that have been economically depressed.

H.R. 1904 has received well-deserved bipartisan support in the Resources and Agriculture Committees for its common sense provisions. We ask that you will join the 105 co-sponsors of the bill, including 17 Democrats, and vote for H.R. 1904.

Sincerely,



Michael Draper
Chairman, Forest Products Industry National Labor Management
Committee and
Vice President, Western District, United Brotherhood of
Carpenters and Joiners of America

**PAGE**

May 14, 2003

**Paper,
Allied-Industrial,
Chemical &
Energy Workers
International
Union**
AFL-CIO, CLC

Dear Representative:

On behalf of PACE International Union, I am writing to ask you to support H.R. 1904, the Healthy Forests Restoration Act.

PACE International Union (Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers), represents more than 300,000 workers in the United States, including the men and women employed in the paper industry.

We support this bill because it fixes a national forest management system that all sides agree is broken. As we learned last year when we all watched in horror as forest fires ravaged the West, we need a plan that allows the U.S. Forest Service to thin the forests to help ensure that the next round of inevitable forest fires will be significantly less devastating. We believe that this bill, when combined with changes already approved by Congress in the 2003 Omnibus Appropriations Act, will make common sense changes to a litigious system that does more harm than good.

We also support the bill because it provides benefits to forests in the South, Midwest and East that face a larger problem from bugs and disease. We believe that language in the bill, including the monies for research, gives the Forest Service the flexibility it needs to fight infestation problems that are as much a threat to forests in these regions and fires are in the West.

Our government leaders must adequately address the very real forest health crisis that continues to threaten millions of acres of our national forests and rural communities. Careful, but active, forest management, as set forth in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act is the best way to ensure that these national treasures are truly protected.

Please support H.R. 1904 when the House votes on it later this week. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Boyd Young

P.O. Box 1475
Nashville,
Tennessee 37202

phone:
615.834.8590

fax:
615.834.7741

BDY/PS:maw